

***Statement***

***Insurance Association of Connecticut***

Judiciary Committee

March 4, 2011

**HB 6341, An Act Concerning The Statute Of Repose For  
Asbestos-Related Product Liability Claims**

The Insurance Association of Connecticut is opposed to HB 6341, An Act Concerning The Statute Of Repose For Asbestos-Related Product Liability Claims.

HB 6341 seeks to eliminate completely the statute of repose for such actions. Statutes of repose are designed to provide a finite time in which a claim may be brought protecting defendants from limitless litigation. Statutes of repose ensure that information is available and evidence does not become stale. Current law already permits more than significant time, sixty years, to bring a claim. Such an extensive amount of time already makes it extremely difficult to gather relevant evidence to defend against such claims. Justice is supposed to be balanced and fair for both parties. Eliminating the statute of repose removes justice from the equation.

Additionally, HB 6341, as drafted, is not limited to courses of action that arise after the effective date. As such, it could apply to a cause of action that occurred years ago, thus revising a cause of action that may have already terminated.

The IAC urges your rejection of HB 6341.